

HOUSE RESOLUTION 399
By Windle

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Mary Lou
Winningham of Byrdstown.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Mrs. Mary Lou Winningham; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Winningham was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 1933, she married Ward Porter Winningham; and

WHEREAS, a woman of great compassion, Mrs. Winningham welcomed her siblings into her home shortly after her parents' death; and

WHEREAS, after the untimely death of Mr. Winningham, Mary Lou Winningham was forced to work several jobs in order to support her seven children; and

WHEREAS, Mary Lou Winningham served with acumen and alacrity as a baby-sitter, restaurant worker, seamstress, and snack bar manager, in which positions she earned the unbridled respect of her peers, superiors, and customers alike for the exemplary quality of her work and her deep commitment to honesty and integrity; and

WHEREAS, through her diligent efforts, Mrs. Winningham was able to raise her children without any public assistance; and

WHEREAS, aside from her tremendous vocational responsibilities, Mary Lou Winningham instilled in her children the time-honored values of Christianity; and

WHEREAS, an active member of her community, Mrs. Winningham supported the Senior Citizens Program and participated in the Senior Citizens Olympics, where she earned seven straight Gold Medals in Horse Shoe Pitching; and

WHEREAS, she was an active and devout member of the Smyrna Church, where she had served faithfully since she was a teenager; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Winningham was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her parents, Benton M. and Euma Parris Mitchell, and her loving husband, Ward Winningham; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Winningham will be greatly missed by her seven children, Dorothy Elese Richardson, Glenna Annette Allen, Donald Earl Winningham, Ward Olen Winningham, Roger Eugene Winningham, Douglas Arthur Winningham, and State Representative Leslie Everett Winningham; and

WHEREAS, she was a loving grandmother and will be fondly remembered by her seventeen grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Winningham leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor the

memory of Mrs. Mary Lou Winningham, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Mary Lou Winningham.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation for each of her children with this final clause omitted from such copy.